(d) and (e) An outbreak of leptospirosis with 352 cases was also reported from South Gujarat.

Health melas in parliamentary constituencies

†3467. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in 2003-04, his ministry had taken a decision to organise health melas in each Parliamentary constituency;

(b) if so, in how many Parliamentary Constituencies these health melas were organised in that particular year;

(c) whether any assessment of the utility of these melas was done;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether this decision will be continued to be implemented in the future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Health Melas were organized in over 500 Parliamentary Constituencies in 2003-04.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The National Institute of Health & Family Welfare, New Delhi was assigned the work of making an assessment of the utility or these melas. The finding of the impact evaluation of the Health Melas revealed that such Melas have created awareness about the diseases, their cures and treatments. The Health Melas also created awareness about family planning methods i.e. spacing and permanent methods. The majority of the beneficiaries found the mela as useful and beneficial. 88% of the beneficiaries were satisfied with the services availed in the Health Mela.

(e) Continuance of the scheme would be dependant on necessary approval of the competent authority.

Rural Health mission

†3468. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of basic facilities to be extended to the rural areas under the Rural Health Mission;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.